

# BAKER ADMITS STATE GUARD IS INEFFICIENT

## Force on Border Sixty Per Cent Raw, Says Secretary

# DANIELS TO STIR UP SHIPBUILDERS

## Asks Legislation to End Delay—Urges Work by United States

Washington, Dec. 11.—The attention of Congress was directed sharply today to matters relating to both the army and navy which are expected to be productive of agitation for even more drastic measures of national defense than have yet been seriously considered.

Secretary Baker wrote Speaker Clark in response to a House resolution, that 71,834 out of the grand total of 163,800 National Guardsmen taken into the Federal service up to August 31 were without previous military training. Rejections of enrolled Guardsmen for various causes operated later to increase the number of raw recruits to approximately 60 per cent of the force.

In this connection, also, army officers charged with the duty of studying events of the European war, both political and military, made preparations to contend before the Congressional Military Committee that the fundamental reason for the Cabinet crisis in England was the volunteer military policy there prior to the passage of the conscription act. The experience of Great Britain is viewed by these officers as the strongest of arguments for the establishment of universal military training in the United States, as urged in the report of Major General Hugh L. Scott, Chief of Staff, and to which the entire American General Staff is committed.

Deficiency May Be \$50,000,000

Another aspect of the National Guard situation came from Quartermaster General Sharpe, who told of a \$50,000,000 deficiency incurred by the War Department to equip and pay state troops new in the Federal service. If an average of 75,000 men are retained on the border until June 30, he said, the deficiency will be \$50,000,000. The universal training advocates are expected to use their figures in contending that prohibitive cost would be the result of the present system if the nation needed a great army.

Secretary Daniels, before the House Naval Committee, advocated legislation which would compel steel companies and other private concerns to give preference to government orders for military supplies. He will submit a new section for the pending naval appropriations bill for this purpose in order "to hasten battleship construction, which he declared was being delayed by commercial work both in the yards of private builders and in the steel plants."

Secretary Daniels explained to the Naval Committee a statement in his annual report as to the delays encountered in getting the building program authorized by the last session under construction. He pointed out that no satisfactory bids have been received for the four battle-cruisers of the 1917 battle programme, nor any bids at all for three of the four scout cruisers. They were new types, but vitally necessary in the opinion of the general board, the Secretary said, and he added:

"Every time we make a change and advancement in design the shipbuilders want to stick to the old plans."

Plans Government Yards

The Secretary will ask \$6,000,000 a year for the equipment of government yards to build ships. He inserted a statement in the committee records showing his approval of the general board's recommendation for 12-inch, 25-knot, 42,000-ton battleships in the 1918 programme, at a probable cost of \$10,000,000 each. The ships will carry 16-inch 50-calibre guns, the most powerful weapons ever designed for naval use, mounted three to a turret.

The Secretary recommended abolishment of the naval prison at Portsmouth, and the establishment of a new one at a marine barracks for 1,000 men. He said that many detachments from the Naval Academy, the Boston and New York academies, and elsewhere would be transferred to the new post, while the 100 prisoners would be sent to the prison ship Southern, at Portsmouth.

Mr. Daniels praised the services of Melvin Hill, commanding the Southern, and approved a suggestion by Representative Roberts that he be made a commander in the navy by act of Congress.

Retention of facilities for enlisted men to enter the Naval Academy was urged by the Secretary, but he disapproved the suggestion for early graduation of midshipmen to fill vacancies in the service. He intimated that he might ask later that the navy of all enlisted men on first enlistment be raised to encourage recruiting, but he did not go into details.

Wilson to Resume News Talks

Washington, Dec. 11.—President Wilson will resume next Monday his weekly conferences with the Washington newspaper correspondents, a custom he started soon after entering the White House, but abandoned some time ago to avoid discussing delicate international matters.

# OSBORNE WILL SERVE AS NAVAL "PRISONER"

## Former Sing Sing Warden to Investigate Portsmouth

Washington, Dec. 11.—Thomas Mott Osborne, who recently spent a day at the Portsmouth naval prison, will be sent there for a two weeks' "visit" by Secretary of the Navy Daniels, the Secretary told the House Naval Affairs Committee today. Mr. Osborne will live there as one of the prisoners, and will make a report to the Secretary on conditions there.

Mr. Daniels recommended that the naval prison at Portsmouth be abolished, and the building used as a barracks. He said it would accommodate 1,000 enlisted men, while there are only 165 prisoners there now. He would remove the marines now stationed at Annapolis, he said, to Portsmouth, using the Annapolis building as a post graduate school for the Naval Academy. He also recommended two training schools for marines, one at Philadelphia and the other at San Diego, Cal.

# CONTRITE CONVICT ASKS DEATH FOR KILLING NEWSGIRL

## Seeks Pardon So He May Be Tried and Hanged—Request Refused

Hartford, Conn., Dec. 11.—Without emotion George F. Gardner, a convict, appeared before the Board of Pardons today and asked that it give him a "conditional pardon," that his case be reopened, that he be put on trial for murder in the first degree and that he be hanged.

Gardner was convicted in this city on December 8, 1914, of an attack on a young girl and was sentenced to state prison for from ten to twenty years. The child died after his conviction as a result of his attack, he told the board.

For a moment, overcome by astonishment, every one in the room was silent. Then Governor Marcus H. Holcomb said to him:

"Why do you ask this?"

"Because I think I deserve it," came the reply.

"You think you ought to be hanged?"

"Yes."

He was led from the room by a guard. The pardon was not granted.

On the night of November 30, 1914, Gardner attacked Pauline Orenstein, a eleven-year-old news girl.

Michael Cherest, sixty-two years old, who has not been outside the prison walls for thirty-five years, was pardoned by the board, as was John P. Kennedy, sixty, who was sentenced to life imprisonment thirty-two years ago. Both men were convicted for murder.

A man in New York has promised to employ Kennedy, or he can get employment at the Norwich Insane Hospital, which will be cared for by friends. They will leave the prison in a day or two.

# TRANSPORT SUMNER ON BARNEGAT BEACH

## Wireless Call for Help from Ship—Passengers Aboard

The United States transport Sumner, bound from Colon for New York, went ashore last night in a heavy fog off Barnegat, N. J., according to a wireless message received here.

A later wireless message received from the Sumner said that she apparently was "pretty well up on the beach." The wireless operator aboard the transport said that he could hear the surf breaking on the beach plainly, but owing to the darkness could see nothing. Subsequently word was received that the ship was resting easily on the sand and that the sea was light.

The Sumner sailed from Colon on December 14. She carried passengers, mails and merchandise, and in a vessel of 3,668 tons. She is commanded by Captain Webber.

Colonel John M. Carson, jr., of the quartermaster corps here, in charge of the army transport service, said the Sumner had on board a number of soldiers and civilian passengers, but the exact number he did not know.

The coast guard cutter Mohawk and the steamers City of Montgomery and Themistocles were first to answer the distress call for assistance. The coast guard cutter Seneca and the steamers City of Columbus, Lampanas and El Cid followed soon afterward. A wireless message from the City of Columbus said she was rushing with all possible speed to the Sumner.

# U. S. PAY RAISE PUT IN BILL

## Appropriations Measure Contains Help for Executive Employees

Washington, Dec. 11.—The legislative, executive and judicial appropriations bill, reported in the House today, provides for a general increase in pay for employees receiving less than \$12,000 a year, and 5 per cent of those between \$12,000 and \$18,000.

The increase, first of the kind in almost fifty years, would be limited to the next fiscal year, and apply only to executive departments, except agriculture, the judicial establishment and the library of Congress.

Miss Alice Miriam Gamlin, who will have charge of the children's work, urged the organization of classes in churches accessible to school buildings, where the pupils might gather each day after school to attend song service and hear a gospel story.

Miss Florence Kinney told how she would conduct Bible work among the girls in the high schools, colleges, universities and seminaries, and Miss Frances Miller explained how she expected to organize the working women in stores, telephone exchanges and business colleges in the central districts.

"Through the working girls we reach not only the places of business," she said, "but every home in all parts of the city and even in other states."

To Have "Sweeping Revival"

She was followed by Mrs. William Asher, who will look after the interests of the scrub women, domestics, factory girls and nurses in the hospitals. Dr. Isaac Ward, who conducted Bible classes among 55,000 shop men in the city, also spoke.

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# 700 LAY PLANS FOR SUNDAY'S REVIVAL HERE

## Evangelist's Wife and Son Meet Lay Workers and Clergy

# "TRAIL HITTERS" HERE NEXT MONTH

## Rockefeller, Jr., and Mrs. Shepard Hear of Arrangements

Plans for the three months' campaign, during which Billy Sunday will hit the biggest and perhaps the hardest trail he ever has tried to travel—Broadway—were laid yesterday at a luncheon attended by more than seven hundred persons at the Hotel Astor.

The chief lieutenants of the evangelist's staff, headed by "Ma" Sunday herself and her eldest son, George Sunday, his father's business manager, came down from Boston to attend the conference and explain to New York clergymen the Sunday method of "greasing the trail."

Several hundred ministers, ranging from the pastors of the city's wealthiest churches to the most lowly, were on hand to "stake out claims" upon the thousands who are expected to "hit the trail." The Rev. Dr. Karl Reiland, rector of J. P. Morgan's church, St. George's Episcopal, sat at the table with Colonel W. A. McIntyre, commander of the Salvation Army barracks, in Fourteenth Street.

Many Laymen Present

Many laymen, headed by John D. Rockefeller, jr., who is a member of the Rockefeller committee, and James M. Speers, who presided, also were present, as well as even a greater number of lay women, led by Mrs. Finley J. Shepard and Mrs. J. E. L. Davis.

"Ma" Sunday manipulated a buzzer which was supposed to limit to five minutes each of the speakers who outlined the plans of the preliminary campaign to be waged before the evangelist arrives in April. An effort will be made to reach every man, woman and child, every factory, store and commercial establishment and every hospital, school and home in the city.

"Brighten the Corner Where You Are," a line from one of the songs of Homer J. Rodeheaver, Sunday's choir leader, will be the slogan of the New York campaign. Various committees will be scouring the city from the time one thousand "trail hitters" from Philadelphia storm the city's churches on January 14 until the first great meeting is held in the huge tabernacle to be erected on the old American League baseball grounds, at 168th Street and Broadway.

Mr. Speers Outlines Plans

After the blessing had been invoked by the Rev. John Henry Jowett, pastor of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, Mr. Speers briefly outlined the hopes and aspirations of the Sunday campaign.

"Its purpose," he said, "is to stir and shake New York to its very centre, morally and spiritually, as it never has been shaken before. Results cannot be obtained by magic—only by earnest endeavor and by the people giving themselves to this cause. It will be a campaign which will afford opportunity to render personal service such as has never been equalled in this city."

"The great weakness with the Church today is the unwillingness of the people to do personal service. For this reason the churches are confronting a serious situation. To fail in this undertaking would be a great calamity. To succeed would be the greatest blessing that could come to this city. And the impression which will be made will be felt not only throughout the whole country, but around the world."

Miss Grace Saxe, who will have charge of the prayer meeting and Bible study groups, explained how the city would be divided into twenty districts, each in charge of a minister, and how these in turn would be subdivided into sections, also under the supervision of ministers.

Block Committees Planned

The sections will be subdivided again into blocks, directed by a committee of three or four laymen and lay women, who will conduct prayer meetings and Bible study classes twice a week in the homes for weeks prior to and during the campaign.

Miss Alice Miriam Gamlin, who will have charge of the children's work, urged the organization of classes in churches accessible to school buildings, where the pupils might gather each day after school to attend song service and hear a gospel story.

Miss Florence Kinney told how she would conduct Bible work among the girls in the high schools, colleges, universities and seminaries, and Miss Frances Miller explained how she expected to organize the working women in stores, telephone exchanges and business colleges in the central districts.

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# KING OF RUMANIA TO CONFER WITH CZAR

London, Dec. 11.—The Exchange Telegraph's Amsterdam correspondent quotes a Berlin dispatch as saying that King Ferdinand of Rumania arrived at Reni, Bessarabia, yesterday and that Emperor Nicholas is expected there tomorrow. Both monarchs are accompanied by several ministers. Reni is on the Danube, opposite Galatz, Rumania.

# KAISER SENDS BELGIAN REPLY

## Answer to U. S. Protest Explains Attitude on Deportations

Berlin, Dec. 11.—The Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Alfred Zimmermann, today handed to the Secretary of the American Embassy, Joseph C. Grew, the German reply to the American representations on the Belgian deportations. This is a memorandum explaining the German attitude.

Through the Spanish Embassy at Berlin, which represents Belgium, the Belgian government protested against the transportation of Belgian workmen to Germany. This protest, says the semi-official Overland News Agency, has not been accepted to date.

The order of the German Governor General at Brussels on May 15 stipulated that persons who enjoyed public charity and nevertheless refused to accept or continue at work would be punished by confinement or forced employment. Even though this order has been carried out, no means contrary to international law have been employed, the news agency says, since Paragraph 43 of the Hague Convention makes obligatory the maintenance of public order by an occupying power, and if the laws of the country are insufficient, permits the issuance of additional orders.

Denies "Scenes of Terror"

The agency continues:

"Public order without doubt implies that able-bodied persons, so far as possible, should not impose themselves upon public charity."

"The occupation of unemployed persons by municipalities was made conditional on the request of the German administration only in order that the endangering of their financial situation should be made impossible."

"There were no scenes of terror during the transport of the workmen, which was done without any harshness and with all possible consideration."

Neither in Germany nor in the occupied parts of France and Belgium were the unemployed coerced to do work contrary to the law of nations."

Swiss Protests Rejected

Switzerland's Minister at Berlin, says the agency, declared that the rumors of trouble between Switzerland and Germany growing out of the transportation of Belgian workmen to Germany had impressed the Swiss population. Information, therefore, was given regarding the facts and legal aspects of the case. The Chancellor also stated that the Governor General would respect the wishes and interests of neutrals while carrying out the deportations.

Paris, Dec. 11.—Germany's reply to the Swiss note regarding the deportations in Belgium has been received. It is most politely worded, but makes it clear that Switzerland has no ground for interfering with events in Belgium unless her own interests are affected.

# Condition of Belgians Is "Daily More Tragical"

The condition of the Belgians is "daily more tragical," and their minds are turned toward America and Germany, according to a cable message received by Pierre Mail, Belgian Consul here, from Carton de Wiart, Belgium's Minister of Justice.

The dispatch, dated Sunday, was made public by the Belgian committee of citizens which is arranging the relief of the Belgians.

Continued on page 2, column 2

# RUSSIAN UPPER HOUSE STANDS WITH DUMA

## Reorganize Cabinet, Demands Council of the Empire

London, Dec. 12.—"Friday's session of the Council of the Empire marked an epoch in the evolution of Russian legislative institutions," says "The Times." Petrograd correspondent.

The council by an overwhelming majority adopted a resolution urging the formation of a government capable of working jointly with the Legislature and the elimination of irresponsible rule in the administration of Ireland and the release of the Irishmen arrested in the rebellion.

# U. S. AGAIN DEMANDS PASS FOR TARNOWSKI

## Envoy Will Sail to Test Allies' Stand, Washington Hears

Washington, Dec. 11.—The State Department has sent a third note to Great Britain and France, reiterating the opinion that the Allies are acting beyond their rights in refusing a safe conduct for Count Tarnowski, the new Austrian Ambassador to the United States.

This government does not demand safe conduct for the envoy in its own name, the note again declares, but as part of the admitted right of diplomatic intercourse.

The new note was prompted by the fact that neither Britain nor France has replied to the other communications, whereas the new ambassador is expected to sail from Rotterdam on December 16. It is expected that Count Tarnowski will sail next Saturday, in any case, and if the suggestions of the Allied embassies here have borne fruit abroad it is believed he will come through the blockade unhindered, even if the Allies do not recede from their position publicly.

FOR YOUR STOMACH'S SAKE DRINK Dr. Bruch's Rumex—Adv.

# FRANCE TO REPLACE JOFFRE; NIVELLE OR PETAIN TO LEAD; ILLNESS DELAYS LLOYD GEORGE

## Will Meet Commons on Thursday, Instead of To-Day

# ELECTION CALL EXPECTED SOON

## Public Well Pleased with Cabinet—Welcomes New Blood

London, Dec. 11.—First reports of Premier Lloyd George's illness gave the political world a slight shock today, but his condition is not serious, and is due to the overstrain of the last week.

Although he was unable to go to Buckingham Palace with the other members of his Ministry to receive the seal of office from the King, his doctors announced that he was suffering from nothing more than a severe chill and would be out in a day or two.

The belief is widespread here that Lloyd George will appeal to the country in a general election as soon as he gets his Cabinet "team" going smoothly, and that his administration will be returned to power with a great majority.

Will Meet Commons Thursday

Lloyd George will meet the Commons for the first time as Premier on Thursday, when the vote on new war credits will give the members an opportunity to debate almost any subject they wish to raise. The new Premier sent the following message to-day to each member of the Commons:

"The King has entrusted me with the task of forming a government. I have carried out the command. I had hoped to make a statement to the House on Tuesday. I now find it impossible. On Tuesday Mr. Bonar Law, as leader of the House, will move adjournment till Thursday."

"The one predominant task before the government is the vigorous prosecution of the war to a triumphant conclusion. I feel confident the government can rely on your support as long as they devote their energies effectively to that end."

# List Well Received

Public reception of the official list of the new Ministry is extraordinarily friendly. Nowhere is exception taken to the inclusion of new blood. The only doubt raised is whether men like Sir Albert Stanley and Herbert A. L. Fisher, who were not previously members of Parliament, will be able to uphold the work of their departments in debate.

The city generally welcomes the new ministry. Financiers feel great admiration of the work of Lloyd George at the outbreak of the war as Chancellor of the Exchequer, and they also believe that Bonar Law, having had practical business experience, will make a better Chancellor than Reginald McKenna, who was regarded as too greatly influenced by the Bank of England. McKenna's insistence on short term loans has never been popular.

# Ministers Get Seals

Bonar Law and the other ministers who are not required to seek reelection on assumption of office, together with the Lords in the new Cabinet, went to Buckingham Palace today, to receive the hands of the King and received their seals of office.

In the next session of the Commons, former Premier Asquith and his Liberal followers will take Opposition benches to the left of the speaker. The Labor party will be split, as the Independent Labor faction also will cross over to the Opposition benches.

The Irish Nationalists, whose attitude will be decided tomorrow, are expected to demand immediate changes in the administration of Ireland and the release of the Irishmen arrested in the rebellion.

# Both Sides Claim Success in Macedonian Struggle

London, Dec. 11.—The fighting on the Macedonian front has grown more spirited in the last few days. Positions have changed hands several times. An advance of several hundred yards was scored by the Entente troops north of Monastir yesterday, according to the Serbian and French war offices. Berlin, on the other hand, states that the attacks were repulsed with heavy losses and that the day was "one more severe failure of the Entente as a fighting day."

On the Struma front a British company, attempting to advance against the Bulgarian positions, was annihilated, according to Sofia, which adds that 120 British dead were counted on the field.

The French official report says: "Army of the East—On December 10 attacks by the Allied troops in the sector north of Monastir were hampered by bad weather. The Germano-Bulgars made desperate resistance. The struggle was particularly spirited north of Hill 1,050, where a height attacked by the Russians changed hands several times. Near the village of Flaklar the French advanced about 800 meters. On the rest of the front rain and mist have caused a suspension of operations."

# MEATLESS DAYS FOR ITALY

## Government Will Take Complete Control of Supply After January 1

Rome, Dec. 11.—A decree was issued today placing the consumption of fresh meat under government control after January 1. A central committee will fix the number of animals to be slaughtered each week. The sale of meat will be prohibited on Thursdays and Fridays and the sale of poultry permitted only on two days a week. Arrangements will be made to assure a supply of meat to the sick.

ONLY 56 HOURS TO HAVANA.

Atlantic Coast Line Florida and West Indian Limited. 2 Trains Daily. 1138 B'way. —Adv.

# EXPECT "HISTORIC SESSION" OF REICHSTAG TO-DAY

Amsterdam, Dec. 11.—The session of the Reichstag tomorrow, at which the Imperial Chancellor will speak, is characterized by the Berlin correspondents of the Dutch newspapers as "the most remarkable since the outbreak of the war and of worldwide historical importance."

All the members of the Reichstag, even those in the fighting line, have been summoned to Berlin by telegraph. Bethmann-Hollweg to-day received the ministers of all the federal states, and discussed with them the subjects which he will bring up in the Reichstag.

It is said that his statement has been received with approval by the governments of Vienna, Sofia and Constantinople, where similar parliamentary sittings will be held simultaneously.

# BRITISH NAVAL DRIVE AWAITED

## Greece Faces STERN ACTION

Berlin, Dec. 11.—Interest in the Reichstag session tomorrow is intense. The demand for tickets of admission surpasses all precedent during the war.

The speech of the Chancellor is expected to consume half an hour. The Reichstag will adjourn immediately afterward without debate.

# German Admiral Says Allies Plan Ultimatum as First Step in Final Solution

Berlin, Dec. 11 (by wirelets to Sayville).—Rear Admiral Kalau von Hofe comments in the "Vossische Zeitung" on the recent change in the high command of the British navy, which, in his opinion, indicates also a change in the methods of British naval warfare.

"Instead of cool calculation, the British naval warfare henceforth shall be guided by a spirit of enterprise," says the admiral. "The German navy will hail with satisfaction this change of mind on the part of its main enemy. What dangers this change implies for the neutrals can hardly be foreseen."

"On the blockade the admiral is ready to go to the verge of rupture with neutrals. He has particularly insisted that the British navy ought to open an offensive and not hesitate to search out and annihilate the enemy."

Refused to Risk Fleet

"The former British plan was to risk the British navy in no circumstances. The German navy being encircled in home ports was thus supposed to be inefficient, while the forced idleness of German merchant ships would consume the dowry of Germany. As to the German submarine warfare, England expected to master this problem by diplomatic influence on the neutrals."

"At the same time the possibility was admitted that the German navy by an 'act of despair' might search out the hiding place of the British navy in the high North Sea, but there it would fight under the most unfavorable strategic circumstances."

"The British plan was, at all events, to destroy in the peace conference whatever was left of the German navy and save the British navy for great future problems in the Pacific Ocean. The British plan, however, has failed in every respect."

Germans Roamed Sea

"For the Grand Fleet under Jellicoe obtained no victory, which is best proved by the fact that the German high seas forces appeared on the high seas after the battle of Skagerrak, approached the English coast, the Thames mouth of the Channel, and brought in steamers to Zebrugg."

"Further proof of the inefficiency of the British navy is the increasing difficulty in the transportation of ammunition and other contraband and the growing scarcity of food in England."

"In the face of these facts the official reports of the British Admiralty were no more trusted by the public, the general feeling of uneasiness increased, and the result was a change in the high command of the navy. Also, the British plan to fight our submarines by the aid of neutrals failed."

# Brand King a Traitor

"La Liberté," of Paris, prints a report that the people of Cana severely denounced Constantine at a mass meeting, which passed the resolution declaring his dethronement.

The King was branded as a traitor for having turned the arms of Greece against the sons of the liberators of the nation and the guarantors of its independence, and for his attempts diplomatically to create a policy contrary to the traditions, interests and aspirations of Greece, the dispatch adds. The soldiers present are reported to have torn the crowns from their uniforms.

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# Idol of Armies Makes Way for Younger Generals

# BRIAND'S SAGACITY SAVES HIS PLACE

## France, Tired of Mistakes, Sacrifices Her Hero for Victory

Paris, Dec. 11.—Joffre, the idol of France and its armies, must make way for new blood. This is the great and almost tragic result of the recent ferment.

France is house cleaning because the French want to get on with the war. The people no longer care for personalities; winning the war is the only thing that counts. The lessons of Rumania and Greece have made a big impression on the public—so big that the French people demand a change in the high command.

The changes in the Ministry are of minor importance, merely the eddies of a great wave of public opinion sweeping over the military command. The radical socialists are using it to get a stronger representation in the government, but the soldier is the only man who counts now.

Briand Saves Himself

Briand's ability to sense public opinion and his cleverness in saying the right thing at the right time have saved him in a critical situation. To outsiders, however, as to the French general public, the changes in the high command occupy the chief position of interest.

Joffre is to be "kicked upstairs." He will possibly command the Allied War Council, where his experience will be of the greatest value to the Entente, although he will be shorn of actual power.

Ranks with Joan of Arc

France considers that he has done more for his country than even Joan of Arc, but that he has given of his best, and that he must make way for new men, for fresh ideas and for greater energy. Nothing proves the determination of the French more than their decision thus to shelve their idol of the war.

Who is to succeed Joffre is something that probably will be decided this week. The choice seems to lie between Nivelle and Petain, with the odds favoring the former, who was the hero of Douaumont and Vaux in the great Verdun battle. A graduate of Polytechnic, Nivelle was an unimportant general before he was called, last April, by Petain, then in command at Verdun.

Nivelle Extremely Popular

It was Nivelle who conducted the whole operations that resulted in the recapture of Douaumont and Vaux and the sweeping in of six thousand prisoners, thus offsetting the work of months by the Germans. Naturally, Nivelle is extremely popular with the army and people, though he is personally known to few.

General Petain is a slightly older man, of strong character and great energy and ingenuity. There are other candidates, but these two are the favorites. One report is that Nivelle is considering the offer.

Great Campaign Expected

Within this month great changes will be seen in the military situation in Greece, with France playing a strong hand. The situation, it is believed here, will be something like this:

The victorious German army of Mackensen will come down toward Monastir, bound to retake Monastir and open the way for the entrance of Greece into the war on the side of the Central Powers. Sarraill's forces will not only have to face this army, but must also guard themselves from the Greeks on the rear.

Nothing would surprise the Allies now, not even a declaration of war against them by King Constantine. The latest demands of the Entente are expected to be used by that monarch as a pretext for sparring for sufficient time to organize his forces. Every one expects that his severance with the Allies will be only a matter of days or weeks.

France Tired of Mistakes

France has a vision. She has no stomach for further mistakes in the war, such as that of Rumania. The French admit that the Rumanian blow is a hard one, but one due solely to the Rumanians' disregard for the warning of the Allied general against the danger of the Transylvanian campaign before Bulgaria was disposed of.

Even Russia's early offer of assistance was scorned. But now the milk is spilt there are no tears shed by France. There is only a desire to prevent the recurrence of such a catastrophe.

France's reorganization is not something due to sudden inspiration, but to the realization that the war is not being won by the Entente and to the de-